

## CITY OF ALEXANDRIA OFFICE OF HOUSING

The Office of Housing makes recommendations to the City Manager and City Council on housing policy and investment, coordinates and administers City housing and housing-related programs and services, and implements the Alexandria Housing Master Plan. Its major divisions are Program Administration, Landlord-Tenant Relations, and Program Implementation.



### PROMOTING ACCESSIBLE HOUSING IS A CITY HOUSING GOAL

The City's Housing Master Plan affirms that promoting and providing accessible housing is a City priority. One of the strategies to accomplish this is to partner with existing property owners to modify non-accessible rental housing to allow for habitation by persons with physical disabilities. The RAMP and RUAM grant programs are mechanisms to meet this important City goal.

### LOOKING FOR ACCESSIBLE RENTAL HOUSING?

VHDA offers a free resource to help renters find housing that meets both their physical needs and budgets. **AccessVA.org** ([www.accessva.org](http://www.accessva.org)) offers an on-line search tool that allows renters to search for accessible rental housing, accessible housing resources, and locations of Virginia Centers for Independent Living. Rental housing can be searched based on criteria such as location, bedroom size, rent, proximity to public transit, Veteran status, and Housing Choice voucher holder status. The housing search tool includes listings from all over the state of Virginia and is updated directly by housing providers.

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## RESOURCES FOR ACCESSIBLE RENTAL HOUSING



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# RESOURCES FOR RENTAL ACCESSIBILITY

## CITY OF ALEXANDRIA'S RENTAL ACCESSIBILITY MODIFICATION PROGRAM (RAMP)

The Rental Accessibility Modification Program (RAMP) provides grant funds to modify rental housing to make the units more accessible for low- and moderate-income tenants with physical disabilities. Renters may use the grant funds to complete permanent accessibility modifications at no cost. The property owner/landlord must agree to the proposed improvements.

### How Can RAMP Help?

RAMP provides grant funds of up to \$50,000 for a rental unit that is the primary principal residence of an individual with a disability. Modifications can include installation of handicap accessible ramps, rehabilitation of a bathroom, widening of doorways, and exterior improvements, as well as other work.

### Mini-RAMP Grants

In addition, there are *Mini-RAMP grants* that fund smaller modifications up to \$1,500. Those modifications can include installation of grab bars, specialized fixtures, or other small modifications.

### How to Qualify

Grant funds can only be used by renter households living in the City of Alexandria. At least one member of the household must be physically disabled. An applicant must complete the RAMP application and provide verification of income and asset information for all residents of the rental unit. Household income must be within the income limits as established annually by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD).

## VHDA RENTAL UNIT ACCESSIBILITY MODIFICATION (RUAM) PROGRAM

The Rental Unit Accessibility Modification (RUAM) program offers grant funds for the modification of rental housing that directly relates to the disability of the applicant. The purpose is to provide more accessible rental housing for low- and moderate-income tenants with physical disabilities. The Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA) provides the grant funds.

### How Can RUAM Help?

RUAM provides grants up to \$6,000 per rental unit that is the primary principal residence of an individual with a disability. Typical modifications include, but are not limited to, installation of ramps, chairlifts, widening of doorways and sidewalks, remote entry devices, and alterations to bathrooms and kitchens.

### How to Qualify

An applicant must complete the VHDA RUAM Program application. The City of Alexandria is an approved "Community Agent" and will assist interested Alexandria renters with the application process. Income and asset information must be provided for all residents of the rental unit. Household income must be within the income limits as established annually by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD).

## WHO CAN RAMP & RUAM GRANTS HELP?

Both grant programs are available to assist low- and moderate-income renters in modifying their housing to accommodate the physical disabilities of household members. The renters must have incomes at or below the maximum limits of the federal Section 8 Program, by family size. Staff will assist in assessing income eligibility.

### 2021 HUD Income Limits

1 person household: \$57,650
2 person household: \$65,850
3 person household: \$74,100
4 person household: \$82,300
5 person household: \$88,900
6 person household: \$95,500

